United Nations A/54/605/Add.4

General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 December 1999
English
Original: Arabic

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (d)

Human rights questions: comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Report of the Third Committee*

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1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 17 September 1999, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Human rights questions: comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee held a substantive debate on sub-item (d) jointly with sub-items (b), (c) and (e) at its 32nd to 43rd meetings, on 4 and 5 and from 8 to 11 November 1999. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/54/SR.32-43).

3. For the documents before the Committee under this sub-item, see A/54/605.

4. At the 32nd meeting, on 4 November, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/54/SR.32).

5. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/54/SR.32).

6. At the 34th meeting, on 5 November, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights in Cambodia, the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq made introductory statements (see A/C.3/54/SR.34).

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in six parts, under the symbol A/54/605 and Add.1-5.

99-38285 (E) 131299

7. At the 35th meeting, on 5 November, the independent expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Rwanda made introductory statements (A/C.3/54/SR.35).

8. At the same meeting, the Director of the New York Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, on their behalf, introduced the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq, the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Burundi, and made an introductory statement under sub-item (d) (see A/C.3/54/SR.35).

9. At the 36th meeting, on 8 November, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/54/SR.36).

10. No proposals were submitted and no action was taken under this sub-item.